

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A gate apparatus comprising a first frame, a second frame and a plurality of rails, wherein each of the first and second frames comprises a vertical post and a plurality of cross-bars, and wherein the cross-bars of the first frame increase in length from the top cross-bar to the bottom cross-bar, and the difference in length between each cross-bar and the one below it is at least equal to the width of each rail, and wherein the cross-bars of the second frame increase in length from the bottom cross-bar to the top cross-bar, and the difference in length between each cross-bar and the one above it is at least equal to the width of each rail.
2. The gate apparatus of claim 1, wherein the number of rails equals the number of cross-bars.
3. The gate apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a means of attaching the rails to the cross-bars that allows the rails to pivot vertically in relation to the cross-bars.
4. The gate apparatus of claim 3, wherein the means of attaching the rails to the cross-bars is a bolt with a self-locking nut.
5. The gate apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a wheel and a means of attaching the wheel to the vertical post of the second frame.
6. The gate apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a chain hook attached to the first frame.
7. The gate apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a chain hook attached to the second frame.

8. The gate apparatus of claims 6 or 7, further comprising a chain attached to the chain hook.

9. The gate apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cross-bar that is second from the top is extended by a length that is at least equal to the combined width of all of the rails beneath the one that fits into this second cross-bar, such that all the lower rails when swung into a full vertical position will fit within the extended length of such cross-bar.

10. The gate apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a means for securing the second cross-bar to the rail that fits into the second cross-bar.

11. The gate apparatus of claim 10, wherein the securing means is a spring clip pin.

12. The gate apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a center support attached to the rails.

13. The gate apparatus of claim 12, wherein the center support is parallel to the line formed by the ends of the cross-bars on the first and second frames.

14. The gate apparatus of claim 13, wherein the center support is attached to the rails by a means that allows the center support to pivot.

15. The gate apparatus of claim 12, wherein the center support comprises two steel straps on either side of the rails.

16. The gate apparatus of claim 15, wherein the steel straps are attached to the rails by bolts.

17. The gate apparatus of claim 12, wherein the center support comprises two sets of cross-bars, one on either side of the center support, the rails fit into the cross-bars of the center support, and the rails pivot vertically on either side of the center support,

such that the gate apparatus folds in the center when swung vertically upward or downward.

18. The gate apparatus of claim 17, wherein the cross-bars of the center support decrease in length from top to bottom.

19. The gate apparatus of claim 18, wherein the difference in length between each consecutive cross-bar is at least equal to the width of one of the rails.

20. The gate apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a gate post and a means of attaching the first frame to the gate post.

21. The gate apparatus of claim 20, wherein the means of attaching the first frame to the gate post is a plurality of hinges.

22. The gate apparatus of claim 21, wherein the hinges are adjustable and can be moved up or down on the gate post.

23. The gate apparatus of claim 21, wherein the hinges are adjustable and can be rotated on the gate post.

24. The gate apparatus of claim 1, wherein the rails are made of square steel tubing.

25. The gate apparatus of claim 1, wherein the vertical posts are made of round steel tubing.

26. A corral panel apparatus comprising a first frame, a second frame and a plurality of rails, wherein each of the first and second frames comprises a vertical post and a plurality of cross-bars, and wherein the cross-bars are all equal in length, further comprising a means of attaching the rails to the cross-bars that allows the rails to pivot vertically in relation to the cross-bars.

27. The corral panel apparatus of claim 26, further comprising a mud shoe attached to the bottom of each vertical post.
28. The corral panel apparatus of claim 26, wherein any one of the cross-bars is extended, further comprising a means for securing the extended cross-bar to the rail that fits into the extended cross-bar.
29. The corral panel apparatus of claim 28, wherein the securing means is a spring clip pin.
30. The corral panel of claim 26, wherein the rails are made of square steel tubing.
31. The corral panel of claim 26, wherein the vertical posts are made of square steel tubing.